





revolutionize the county and state." The direct compensation of these officers amounts to nearly 12,000 a year, and their expenses are believed to be very considerable.

The conduct of the judge of the U. States of the northern district of this state, is daily before the eyes of the legislature.—The marshals have acted in coincidence with the general current of extraneous influence, and in their selection of deputies to take the census, they have, as far as I can learn, studiously excluded all those applicants that were friendly to the state administration. The conduct of Mr. Robert Tillotson, one of the district attorneys, and nephew of the president of the United States, is glanced at in the paper marked X,—and that of Mr. Jacob Sutherland, the other district attorney, and nephew of the secretary of the navy, is mentioned in the paper marked Y. It will give me pleasure to find that there is error in some of these imputations; but of their officious and improper interference, generally speaking, there can be no doubt. There are three newspapers employed by the government for publishing the laws of the Union, in this state, and these consisted of the Argus, National Advocate, and Ontario Messenger, until within a few weeks, when the business was taken from the last paper and committed to the Times in Batavia, a gazette of recent date, of comparatively limited circulation, and hostile to the state administration.

There are, I believe, 674 post-masters in this state, and I should estimate the aggregate patronage of the department in the state at large at 100,000 dollars annually. During the able and impartial administration of the predecessor of the present post-master general, these offices were conferred without any reference to state politics. Attempts have been made, at different times, to cause the removal of postmasters friendly to the state administration, and I am sorry to say that in several instances they have succeeded. The papers marked Z, will exhibit the case of Mr. Hezekiah L. Granger, who, in the spring of 1819, was removed from the office of post-master at Manlius. The papers marked AA, are an expose of the removal of Alpheus Doty from the post office at Sandy Hill. This removal, it appears, was effected through the instrumentality of Mr. Roger Skinner, who resided in the same village. Mr. Doty, who has since died, had incurred the resentment of Mr. Skinner for his support of the state administration, and he was accordingly marked out for a victim, and in December, 1818, his removal was solicited by Mr. Skinner in the city of Washington. To effect this purpose, it would appear, that the good offices of Mr. Henry Meigs were employed to operate on his uncle, the post-master general.—It appears that the post-master general had determined to make the removal on Mr. Skinner's representation alone. The petition was signed by violent partisans, and the reasons assigned in it were only ostensible. And there is this singular circumstance, attending this transaction.—The papers directing the displacement were enclosed to Mr. Skinner; and it was not, it appears, in his estimation sufficient punishment to effect the removal of a good citizen and faithful officer, under false pretences, but his humiliation must be witnessed by his political adversaries, who were apprised of the event, and were called in to exult over his fall.—The papers marked BB, will show the removal of the post-master at Caldwell. This was also principally accomplished through the agency of Mr. Skinner, and upon the same grounds of party excitement. His letter to the post-master general, on this subject, could not be found. The paper marked CC, refers to the removal of Mr. Brown, the post-master at Hartford, in Washington county, which was also the result of the same spirit. In March, 1819, Mr. Jacob Van Ness was removed from the office of clerk of the county of Dutchess—and Mr. Peter R. Livingston, a senator from the southern district, publicly declared, and I am credibly informed, that the then post-master at Poughkeepsie, should be removed from office, and Mr. Van Ness appointed in his place. This event actually took place, and indicates an understanding and co-operation between a department, at least, at Washington, and a political party in this state.

Although these measures were unequivocal in demonstration, and reprehensible in character, yet they were not deemed sufficiently energetic for the crisis. And, accordingly, on the 4th of April, 1820, twenty-one days before the general election, Mr. Martin Van Buren, chairman of the meeting which nominated Mr. Tompkins for governor, addressed the following letter to Mr. Henry Meigs, the nephew before alluded to of the post-master general. "My dear sir—Our sufferings, owing to the rascality of deputy post-masters is intolerable, and cries aloud for relief. We find it absolutely impossible to penetrate the interior with our papers, and unless we can attain them by two or three prompt removals, there is no limiting the injurious consequences that may result from it; let me therefore entreat the post-master general to do an act of justice, and render us a partial service, by the removal of Holt, of Herkimer, and the appointment of Jacob

Fox, Esq.—Also of Howell, of Bath, and the appointment of an excellent friend, W. B. Rochester, Esq. a young man of the first respectability and worth in the state,—and the removal of Smith, at Little Falls, and the appointment of Hollister,—and the removal of Chamberlain, in Oxford, and the appointment of Lot Clark, Esq. I am in extreme haste, and can therefore add no more. Use the enclosed papers according to your discretion, and if any thing is done, let it be quickly done, and you may rely upon it, much good will result from it. Yours, affectionately, M. Van Buren. April 4, 1820. The hon. Henry Meigs."

The ostensible object of this letter is the displacement of certain post-masters on account of alleged mal practices, but the real design was to subvert the purposes of party. The removal of a few distinguished post-masters would serve as a caution to the 674 post-masters in the state to come out as electioneering partisans against the state administration, or to maintain silence. The improper and corrupt practices imputed to post-masters by Mr. Van Buren, are, no doubt, entirely unfounded. The private characters of those gentlemen are perfectly respectable, and their official conduct had never, as I understand, been impeached before that period. "If any thing is done, let it be quickly done, and you may rely upon it, much good will result from it." That is, let it be done before the election, and many votes will be acquired.

The letter of Mr. Van Buren produced the removal of Messrs. Chamberlain and Smith, two of the post-masters mentioned in it. It seems that Mr. J. R. Drake, then a member of congress, interfered very officiously against a post-master living out of his district. And it is believed that the removal of Mr. Leonard, whose case will be hereafter mentioned, was accomplished through his instrumentality.—It appears that Mr. Drake cultivated an influence when in Washington, sufficient not only to injure men much more respectable than himself, but to secure a contract with the government which he considered of some consequence. Mr. Howell was kept in his office, by a personal acquaintance with Dr. Bradley of the general post office, who very properly exerted himself to continue the services of this excellent officer for the benefit of the department. Mr. Holt was not removed until the 7th of December last, after the resolutions of a party meeting, marked D, D, held on the 30th October last, were forwarded to the post-master general. It is said by the post-master general, that Mr. Holt was considerably delinquent, and failed for a number of quarters to render his accounts according to law. In order to establish the reality of this reason, the application of removal ought to exist in every similar case; but an intimation has been publicly and repeatedly made of a great delinquency, and no notice has been taken of it; and I am greatly mistaken if many cases do not exist where the returns required by law have not been duly made, and which have, notwithstanding, been passed over without animadversion.

The papers marked EE, probably contain the true statement of the case. The papers marked GG, relate to the removal of the post-master at Little Falls. And the affidavits of the honorable Robert Monell and Joseph S. Lyman, marked FF, will illustrate the general character of the transactions.—On the 15th of April, 1820, Mr. Stephen B. Leonard was removed from the office of post-master at Oswego. The letter announcing this is in the words following, to wit: "Post Office Department, 13th of April, 1820—Sir, your being a mail contractor, and the only printer in the place where you reside, it is considered that your holding the office of post-master gives you an undue preference over other citizens and printers, not justified by the usual practice of this department. With your conduct, as post-master, I am well satisfied. Respectfully, yours, &c. R. J. Meigs, jun.—Stephen B. Leonard, Esq." The report of the post-master general, marked HH, made at the present session of congress, shows that there are 58 post-masters who are at the same time contractors for carrying the mail; and it is well known that in three important cities, the post-masters are at the same time proprietors and editors of newspapers; and it cannot be presumed that the circumstance of Mr. Leonard's being the only printer in Oswego, would increase the force of the general objection. In this case there would be no immediate rival establishment which he would be interested in injuring by virtue of his official situation.

The case of Mr. Leonard is particularly mentioned in the paper marked II. The documents marked JJ, KK, LL, MM, and NN, are corroborative of the other proofs, and exhibit some interesting views on this subject.

There are in all probability scenes of equal if not greater turpitude, which cannot be exposed on account of the peculiar situation of individuals, dependent for their livelihood in maintaining silence, interested in concealing abuses, desirous of screening personal or political friends, averse to encounter the vituperation which will ensue—apprehensive of personal injury from the despatch of detected malefactors, or looking to a particular quarter for fa-

vors to themselves or connexions. Under these circumstances it would be impossible for any department of the government, even if armed with the power of compelling testimony, to attain a full knowledge of the abuses complained of in the present case, it was rendered still more difficult from the want of official authority to take cognizance of the investigation. And when it was instituted with a view to the attainment of documentary testimony, the offenders were forewarned, and had ample time to take measures for the suppression of the truth.

It is, I conceive, impossible to resist the unfavorable conclusions which must be drawn from the body of testimony now submitted to you, making full allowance for exaggeration or error, for the influence of prejudice, and the operation of improper motives. And admitting that a considerable portion of the allegations may be successfully refuted; yet still there will remain a sufficient number of strong and established facts, to prove a concert of exertions on the part of the officers of the national government—in the navy yard, the custom-house, the general post office, and in the judicial, and some other institutions of that government, operating in our local elections; and which demonstrates the existence of an organized and disciplined corps, and the obtrusion of extraneous influence for the purpose of promoting the aspirations of ambition, or of securing the possession of authority, or of breaking down the power of the state, by the encouragement of intestine divisions. And this is a case in which the maxim—*He orders the commission of a crime, who does not forbid it when it is in his power*, may be justly and emphatically applied. The least intimation from the proper quarter, would have effectually prevented these notorious and alarming evils.

To all sincere friends of republican government, and such, gentlemen, I believe you all to be, this statement must present subjects for serious reflection. Without the existence of state governments, it is impossible for us to enjoy the blessings of free government. And without a national government, we would be involved in wars at home, and have but feeble security against attacks from abroad. Both are essential to the freedom, the safety, the prosperity, and the honour of our country. The national government is necessary to the security over the revenues and physical force of the country. In its military and naval establishments—in the arrangement of the national domains—in the disposition of its diplomatic intercourse—in the collection of taxes—in the immense patronage which it derives from the numerous and lucrative offices in its gift—and in the allurements which are consequently held forth to ambition and cupidity, we perceive the foundation of an influence which may be arrayed with a force almost irresistible against the independence and stability of the state governments. It may be truly observed, that in proportion to the population of the United States, no government has more numerous and efficient means of directing and controlling public opinion. And when we consider that few of the states have any funds or resources except what are derived from taxation; that the compensation of their public officers is comparatively small; and that the heads of their executive and judicial departments have been even sometimes induced to accept offices under the national government, subordinate in importance, but superior in emoluments, we must at once perceive the difficulties which the state authorities might have in opposing the improper influence of the national government. And when we further consider that in all probability there would be no unity of views or coincidence of exertions operating at the same time in the states, while the national authority might make its approaches by singling out particular states, and advancing against them with its combined and consolidated force, we have every reason to exercise the utmost vigilance, and to interpose all proper barriers against undue encroachments. A government of influence and corruption is the worst possible shape which a republican government can assume, because under the forms of freedom it combines the essence of tyranny. And although I am far from saying that this is now the case, yet the first attempts to give a wrong direction to the authority of government, ought to be resisted. Slavery is ever preceded by sleep; and the liberties of free states are more frequently prostrated by fraud than by force. In the intelligence and patriotism of the body of our fellow citizens, we may, I trust, rely for the preservation of our free governments. And with an anxious desire to merit their good opinion by a faithful and independent discharge of my important duties, and with an entire disregard of any hostility which may arise from any quarter in consequence of my pursuing this course, I submit this communication to the representatives of the people, fully persuaded that when the personal animosities and political agitations of the times are buried in oblivion, I shall be considered by impartial posterity, as having endeavoured to deserve well of the republic by my conduct on this occasion.

DE WITT CLINTON.  
Albany, 17th Jan. 1821.

**CONGRESS.**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**  
Thursday, January 25.

Mr. Floyd, from a select committee which was instructed to inquire into the situation of the settlements on the Pacific ocean, and the expediency of occupying the Columbia river, delivered in a report, accompanied by a bill, to authorize the occupation of the Columbia river, and to regulate the intercourse with the Indian tribes within the United States and territories thereof.

The bill was twice read and committed.

The several bills yesterday ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, were read a third time and passed.

**AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION.**

On motion of Mr. Smith, of N. C. the house proceeded to the consideration of the resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution of the United States, so as to establish an uniform mode of electing, by districts, electors of president and vice president of the United States, and representatives in congress.

And the question having been stated on the passage of said resolution, this being its final reading in this house—

Mr. Gross, of New York, presented to the house the considerations which confirmed the impressions which he had, from the first, entertained, in favor of this measure.

Mr. Ross, of Ohio, assigned at length the reasons which influenced him to oppose this resolution, first, because, in one part of it, respecting representatives, it was wholly unnecessary, and in the other part, respecting electors, inexpedient.

Mr. Strong, of N. York, next spoke, in opposition to the resolution, on the grounds generally taken in opposition to it, and with the additional reason that the proposed amendment goes to affect the powers of the people, and should therefore be approached with more hesitation than if it related to any of the powers of the government, and should not be touched at all unless under an indispensable necessity.

Mr. Brevard, of South Carolina, delivered his sentiments, in opposition to the resolution, on the general ground that a sufficient necessity had not been shown to justify a material alteration of the constitution.

Mr. Randolph, of Va. expressed the grounds of his hostility to this resolution, which he considered as proposing a pernicious innovation on the constitution, under the influence of fanciful and theoretical notions, under circumstances of the house and of the country not favourable to a correct decision.

Mr. Storrs, of New York, opposed the resolution on principle, and on the ground of the impolicy of lightly invading the present provisions of the constitution.

Mr. Smith of Md. defended the resolution, on the ground of the necessity of some change in the constitution, (he did not pronounce this the only change which could be made, or the best, though he inclined to think it the best,) to guard against the effects of intrigue on elections.

Mr. Whitman, of Mass. strongly supported the resolution on its known merits, and on the ground that the amendment which it proposes to the constitution involves no innovation, but to restore to that instrument a feature in regard to electors, which it originally possessed, which had been taken from it by construction. The delivery of Mr. W.'s speech occupied nearly an hour.

Mr. Wood, of New York, spoke decidedly in support of the resolution, as calculated to restore to the people the exercise of the sovereign power, of which they had in practice been divested, contrary to what ought to have been the construction of the constitution.

The question on the passage of the resolution was then taken, and decided as follows—Yeas 92—Nays 56.

Two thirds of the members present not having voted in its favour, the resolution was of course declared to be rejected.

And the house adjourned.

Friday, January 26.

Mr. Smith, of Md. from the committee of ways and means, reported the annual general appropriation bill; which was twice read and committed.

Mr. Sergeant, from the committee on the judiciary, reported a bill to provide for the trial of causes in the district court of the United States, wherein the judge of such court is interested, or has been counsel for either party, or is related to, or connected with, either party; which bill was read a first and second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Anderson, from the committee on public lands, reported a bill to establish an additional land office in Michigan; which was twice read and committed.

The speaker laid before the house a letter from the secretary of the treasury, transmitting the information required by a resolution of the house of representatives of the 9th inst. in relation to the agency of the treasurer of the United States for the war and navy depart-

ment, and whether the same may not be discontinued without detriment to the public service.

[The letter expresses the opinion that the agency of the treasury for the war and navy departments may be discontinued without detriment to the public interest.]

The letter was referred to the committee on the treasury expenditures.

Mr. Clay informed the house that he should defer his motion to take up the Missouri subject to Monday next.

The house continued occupied, until a late hour, in the consideration of a variety of business of a private nature.

The house adjourned to Monday.

**NAVY OF THE U. STATES.**  
ITS EMPLOYMENT AND CONDITION.

Letter from the secretary of the navy to the chairman of the committee on navy affairs of the house of representatives.

Navy Department, Dec. 11th, 1820.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, on behalf of the committee on naval affairs, and to furnish in compliance with your request, the following statement, which contains the information required,

*Columbus*, of 74 guns; *Peacock*, sloop of war, 18 guns; *Shark*, (brig) 14 guns—these vessels are employed for the protection of our commerce in the Mediterranean—to prevent the Barbary states from committing depredations on the persons or property of the citizens of the United States. The *Shark* is principally employed as a despatch vessel to and from the ports of Barbary.

*Ontario*, sloop of war, 18 guns—readiness to proceed to the Mediterranean, to relieve the sloop of war *Peacock*, ordered to the United States.

*Constellation*, frigate, 36 guns—cruising in the Pacific ocean for the protection of trade and whale fisheries.

*Macedonian*, frigate, 36 guns—turning to the United States from the Pacific, after being relieved by the *Constellation*.

*Congress*, frigate, 36 guns—cruising in the Indian seas, and the several Straits, to afford convoy and protection to our trade to and from China, and to give security against the native pirates.

*Corvette John Adams*, 24 guns; *Corvette Cyane*, 24 guns; *Hornet*, sloop of war, 18 guns; cruising on the coast of Africa, for the suppression of the slave trade, and capture of piratical vessels, with instructions to cruise, for the same purpose, on their return to the United States, off the coast of Guinea and along the west India islands.

*Enterprise*, (brig) 14 guns; cruising along the West Indies, Gulf of Mexico, and occasionally coast the Bahamas, and along the shores of the United States.

*Lynx*, schooner, 6 guns; *Porpoise*, schooner, 8 guns;—cruising as the brig *Enterprise*;—all these vessels being employed to carry into effect the several acts of congress for the suppression of the slave trade and punishment of the crime of piracy.

Gun Boats, Nos. 158 and 159—cruising for the same objects along the coasts of Georgia, Florida, &c.

Three small vessels, mounting one gun each, are employed off the Mississippi in the protection of the trade and revenue of the United States.

The objects contemplated in the orders to the several ships and vessels of the navy are briefly explained against their names and stations.

As respects the force now employed in the Mediterranean, it is presumed to be not greater than the service and the interests of the United States require for the purposes of protection; the other ships and vessels are cruising separately, and are considered necessary for the service to which they have been assigned.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

SMITH THOMPSON.

Hon. PHILIP P. BARBOUR,  
Chairman Naval Committee,  
House of Representatives.

**CONSTITUTION OF MASSACHUSETTS.**  
Synopsis of the articles of amendment.

Article I. Prescribes that the provisions of the legislature for the support of public worship, shall no longer be confined to protestant teachers, but be applied to all public christian teachers, and to all societies whether incorporated or not; that all monies paid for maintenance of public worship be applied to the public teacher on whose instructions the subject attends, without regard to the denomination of the parish in which the money is raised; and that all taxes assessed for this purpose upon the real estate of non-resident proprietors, shall be applied to support public worship in the place where they are assessed, except that the said proprietors shall be of a different sect of Christians from the parish in which they are assessed. The clause of the declaration of rights investing the legislature with authority to enforce an attendance on the instructions of public teachers, is annulled. No person shall be tried for a crime, the punishment for which would be ignominious, except on the verdict of a grand jury—and any person charged with any crime or offence shall have a right to be heard by himself or his counsel.



Art. 2. Provides that the political year shall begin on the 1st of January, instead of the first Wednesday in May—and that the town meetings for the election of all state officers, shall be held on the 2d Monday in November, instead of the first Monday in April. This article is to go into operation on the 4th of July the present year.

Art. 3. Declares that no bill or resolution shall become a law if the general court by their adjournment shall prevent the governor from returning it with his objections within five days after it is laid before him.

Art. 4. Invests the general court with authority to grant city powers to towns containing 12,000 inhabitants and upwards, upon the application of a majority of the inhabitants thereof, present and voting on the question.

Art. 5. Provides for the organization of the senate and house of representatives. The senate to consist of 36 members; the state to be divided into districts for their election, to be never less than ten, and no one to elect more than 6 senators. The basis, to be the proportion of public taxes paid in each district. The house never to consist of more than 975 members, except in those years when the valuation is settled, when every town may send as at present. All towns of 1200 inhabitants to elect one representative and the mean increasing number to entitle a town to two, shall be 2400 inhabitants. Towns containing less than 2400 inhabitants to be divided into two classes, each of which shall elect representatives every other year. The mean increasing number and the original number of inhabitants to entitle a town to one or more representatives, to be enlarged with the augmentation of population every tenth year. No town heretofore to be incorporated can send a representative without having 2400 inhabitants, and the members of the house are to be paid out of the public treasury. The council is to consist of seven instead of nine members; to be chosen from the people by joint ballot of the two houses of the legislature.

Art. 6. Every male citizen 21 years of age and upwards, who has resided one year within the state, and six months in the particular town, where he claims to vote, and who has paid any state or county tax within two years, may vote in the election of all the officers of the commonwealth.

Art. 7. Notaries shall be appointed by the governor and council and hold their offices for seven years, unless removed by the address of both houses of the legislature. The same article provides for the appointment of a secretary or treasurer or commissary general in given cases, and also for the removal of such officers.

Art. 8. Allows all members of public companies to vote for their officers without regard to age.

Art. 9. Requires previously to the removal of any judicial officers by address of the legislature, that the causes of removal shall be first stated on the journal of the house in which it shall originate—and notice to be given to the officer that he may be heard in his defence. The article also annuls a provision in the constitution, requiring the supreme court to give opinions on questions proposed by the governor or legislature.

Art. 10. Removes the limitation to particular denominations of christians from such ministers of churches as may be hereafter elected members of the board of overseers of Harvard college.

Art. 11 and 12. Substitutes an oath of allegiance and an oath of office for all other oaths in the constitution.

Art. 13. Declares the incompatibility of several offices under the government of the commonwealth and U. States.

Art. 14. Provides a mode for obtaining future amendments to the constitution. The particular amendment must first be agreed to by a majority of the senators and two-thirds of the representatives in one year, and entered on the journals of both houses with the yeas and nays—and the next general court must concur in the proposed amendment, by the same majorities. It is then to be submitted to the people, and if a majority of qualified voters finally adopt it, the same becomes part of the constitution.

## THE STATE OF OHIO, VERSUS BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.

A joint committee of the legislature of Ohio have made a very long report, to both houses, on the subject of the controversy with the bank of the United States. In the report it is proposed, that a compromise be made by law, providing "that upon the bank discontinuing the suits now pending against the public officers of the state, and giving assurance that the branches shall be withdrawn, and only an agency left to settle its business and collect its debts, the amount collected for tax shall be paid without interest."

The committee conclude, by recommending the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, by the general assembly of the state of Ohio, That in respect to the powers of the governments of the several states, that compose the American Union, and the powers of the federal government, this general assembly

recognize and approve the doctrines asserted by the legislature of Kentucky and Virginia, in their resolutions of November and December, 1798; and January 1800, and do consider that their principles have been recognized and adopted by a majority of the American people.

Resolved further, That this general assembly do protest against the doctrines of the federal circuit court, sitting in this state, avowed and maintained in their proceedings against the officers of state, upon account of their official acts, as being in direct violation of the 11th amendment to the constitution of the United States.

Resolved further, That this general assembly do assert, and will maintain, by all legal and constitutional means, the right of the states to tax the business and property of any private corporation of trade incorporated by the congress of the United States and located to transact its corporation business within any state.

Resolved further, That the bank of the United States is a private corporation of trade, the capital and business of which may be legally taxed in any state where they may be found.

Resolved further, That this general assembly do protest against the doctrine, that the political rights of the separate states, that compose the American Union, and their powers as sovereign states, may be settled and determined in the supreme court of the United States, so as to conclude and bind them, in cases contrived between individuals, and where they are no one of them, parties direct.

Resolved further, That the governor transmit to the governors of the several states, a copy of the foregoing report and resolutions, to be laid before their respective legislatures, with a request from this general assembly, that the legislature of each state may express their opinion upon the matters therein contained.

Resolved further, That the governor transmit a copy of the foregoing report and resolutions to the president of the United States, and to the president of the senate, and speaker of the house of representatives of the United States, to be laid before their respective houses, that the principles upon which this state has, and does proceed, may be fairly and distinctly understood.

Resolved, That ——— members of the senate, and ——— members of the house of representatives, be appointed to prepare and bring in bills, pursuant to the recommendations of the foregoing report.

## HILLSBOROUGH.

Wednesday, February 7.

In the speech of the governor of the state of New York to the legislature, at an extra session held at Albany in November last, he alluded to the officers of the general government as "an organized and disciplined corps," and as using undue influence in the state elections. This part of the speech occasioned considerable heat in the senate, which resulted in the proceedings which will be found in the last page of our paper of the 6th of December. As the implication of the general government in practices so inimical to the independence of state institutions, is a subject not confined in its interest to the citizens of New York, but is of equal importance to every state in the union, we deem no apology necessary for introducing the subject to our readers. The message of governor Clinton to the house of assembly at the commencement of the present session, relates entirely to this subject, and details the facts on which his observations were founded. It will be found in our first page. The following remarks are copied from the Albany Gazette:

His excellency the governor on Thursday made a highly interesting and important communication to the house of assembly, upon the subject of the interference of the officers under the appointment of the general government, in our state elections. It will be recollected that the house of assembly made a call for this information, in the report of the select committee relative to the propriety of answering the governor's speech, at the fall session.—This together with the extraordinary resolution of the senate, in which they, in effect, cut off all intercourse or communication between themselves and the executive, is doubtless the reason that the message went to the house instead of the senate.

After the reading of the message, which is drawn up in bold and elevated language, a resolution was offered by Mr. Romaine, that it, together with the documents, be no longer indulged in by the committee.

Wm. Cain & Son.  
The store has a large and general assortment of goods for sale.

that a joint committee would not be clothed with sufficient powers. Mr. Spencer moved that the resolution be amended, so that it should not be a joint resolution, and so as to authorize the committee to send for persons and papers. After some considerable debate, the resolution was laid on the table, and the message and documents ordered to be printed.

We have only time to say, that his excellency has presented a strong case—much stronger, we suspect, than either his friends or his enemies expected. He has borne himself triumphantly out, in the passage of his speech which has given so much offence. And the investigation which has been instituted, has resulted in the production of a mass of testimony which, unless we are greatly mistaken, will induce the people to "pause and consider." Albany Gaz.

Wm. Blackledge, Esq. is elected to Congress from the Newbern district, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Slocumb.

John E. Boddie, who is accused of killing Dr. Wm. H. Fowler in a fray, on the night of the 19th Feb. 1820, returned to this county after an absence of 12 months, and surrendered himself into the hands of justice; he was brought to this place yesterday; and underwent an examination before three magistrates. He is admitted to bail, being bound himself in the sum of 3000 dollars, and two securities 1500 dollars each, to appear at our next superior court.

Raleigh Minerva.

The resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution, to establish a uniform mode of election of electors of president and vice president of the United States, and representatives to congress, has been rejected. Had the votes against it, however, been fewer by twelve (or one fifteenth of the whole number of representatives,) the resolution had passed the house. Having long believed this amendment to be in every view desirable, it is a consolation to perceive, from the gathering number of its friends, that the day of its adoption is not far distant.

New-York, Jan. 24.

We have again to record a calamitous fire in this city. It broke out on yesterday morning, between 2 and 3 o'clock, and has reduced to ashes the block of buildings which comprized the square between Front and South street, from the upper side of Fulton street to the fire-proof buildings on Front and South streets, recently built by Gen. Stevens and Messrs. Schermerhorns, above Crane wharf alley. One fire proof store, lately built on Front street, by Mr. Moor, and which was unoccupied, is all that remains of the whole square. On the opposite, or west side of Front street, some stores are burnt down, and others much injured between the fire proof store owned by Bogert & Kneeland and the store of Matthew Howell. The very valuable stores occupied by Messrs. Horton & Woodhull, and Mr. Thomas Bloodgood, it is said, have sustained the most damage on that side of the street. The latter contained a great quantity of wines; the upper loft, we understand, was filled with about 60,000 bottles of choice quality, nearly all of which was destroyed. Mr. Bloodgood is, however, fully insured. The buildings destroyed were principally of wood, and of no great value, but some of them contained considerable quantities of merchandise, the loss of which, it is said, will exceed in amount the value of the buildings. The buildings were 3 and 4 stories high, and the conflagration was extremely rapid, the flames illuminating nearly the whole city.

The fire broke out in the lower part of a wooden building on the east side of Front street, near Crane wharf, occupied, by Sarah Smith, as a small tavern, which was entirely consumed.

Mr. Degrand says, in his last report, "We cannot but indulge the hope, that the strong current of public opinion, which is setting in favor of relief to the unfortunate, will be felt in congress, and thus enable 500,000 bankrupts to add to the national wealth, (at 50 cents per day more than they now earn) ninety millions of dollars per annum. Every year of delay produces this enormous difference being equal to the whole of the public debt of the United States."

North-Carolina.—We are pleased to observe, that there appears to be renewed attention to the subject of internal improvements in this state. There is no member of the confederate whose natural advantages have been so much appreciated at home, or re-

pected abroad, than North-Carolina's—the latter is probably caused by the former. A few patriots have roused a spirit, which we hope will make us all better acquainted with the real condition and rightful standing of this important state.

Niles Reg.

Milledgeville, Jan. 9.

An act of the legislature of Alabama, which closed its session last month, lays a tax of one dollar on every dirk, sword cane, pocket or side pistol, and dirk knife—also one dollar (as an additional tax) on the sale of every pack of playing cards. Another act exempts from execution, levy of distress, the following articles in every family; one bed and furniture, one cow and calf, necessary wearing apparel, three spinning wheels, one loom, one fourth part of the provisions and a few other articles of minor value. A state bank, at the seat of government, and removable with it, with a capital of \$2,000,000, to remain till 1835, was incorporated.

The Milledgeville Journal says—"The intrinsic value of the territory, ceded to the United States for the use of Georgia by the treaty lately concluded with the Creek Indians, is we think, at the lowest computation, five millions of dollars. Calculating the average value of the land at one dollar per acre, and believe it to be worth more, it will amount to that sum.—Out of the lands ceded four or five counties, equal in extent and fertility to Jasper, we are told may be formed.

A chance for the Ladies.—The legislature of Missouri, at its late session, laid a tax of one dollar on every batchelor, of the age of 25 years and upwards.

The Cincinnati, (Ohio) paper of January 3, states that a bill had passed the House of Representatives of Ohio, which authorizes the Governor to employ an engineer to examine the grounds on each side the Ohio river, at the falls, with a view of making a permanent Canal on each side of said falls. There is also a bill before the Legislature, but which had not yet been brought up for discussion, respecting a canal between lake Erie and the Ohio river. The paper before us says, "the day that the Erie canal is completed, will be a proud era in the history of Ohio, and we cannot dismiss the subject without earnestly entreating our legislators to put forth the energies of the state in its behalf."

A letter from New-Orleans, of the 24th ult. states, that flour has been sold there at one dollar per barrel; that fresh flour is selling at three dollars per barrel, and every other article from the upper country proportionably low, and not in demand.

Baltimore, January 25.

## COLD WEATHER.

An accurate register thermometer, made by the celebrated Adie of Edinburgh, indicated as the greatest cold of last night (Wednesday) 9 degrees below 0, or 41 degrees below the freezing point. This is 5 degrees lower than the same thermometer has been before this winter.

The ice in our harbour is now so strong and thick that drays have been busily employed on it in transporting goods to Fell's Point from the vessels lying at the fort.

The following is communicated for the satisfaction of my friends in the United States:—

As various reports may be in circulation on the subject of my late imprisonment in Charleston gaol, for an alleged "libel against the peace and dignity of the state of South Carolina," founded on some remarks in my Journal, pages 133 and 175, &c. about a Mr. Hamet, which I am held in bail to answer at Court, on the second Monday in May next, on a criminal prosecution, after which a fair explanation may be expected.—This is, therefore, to request not a hasty judgment before the time, and to return my thanks to those gentlemen who have volunteered their friendly aid at this exigency.

LORENZO DOW.

Charleston (S. C.) Jan. 25, 1821.

Accounts are received by an arrival at Boston from St. Domingo, of the discovery of an extensive and deep-laid plot, by the blacks of that place, to massacre the whites and mulattoes, and pillage the city. The discovery was made but a few hours previous to the one fixed on for car-

rying their horrid project into execution, and the ringleaders were seized and are imprisoned. Five hundred blacks had been armed for that purpose, and their bloody plan was to have been put in execution on Christmas day, but was happily discovered in time to prevent the accomplishment of it. On the first alarm all the whites fled to the shipping in the harbor for safety; but when Capt. Bright sailed, the soldiers had been dispersed, and the white inhabitants were ashore attending to their business as usual.

The war, on the Maine, is said to have enabled Morillo to amass a fortune of \$2,000,000, and that he retires contented!

## From Sierra Leone.

From the Sierra Leone Gazette of October 21 received by the United States ship John Adams, arrived at Norfolk.

On Sunday, the 15th inst. at 7 A. M. the American frigate John Adams, capt. Wadsworth, sailed from the harbour of Freetown on a cruise, having in view the execution of the orders of the government of the U. States, for the suppression of the slave trade, carried on by American citizens, or under the American flag.

Early in the morning of Monday, the 16th, his majesty's brig Snapper, lieut. Nash commanding, sailed from her anchorage within the bank called the middle ground—in the course of the day the Snapper communicated with the John Adams.

We have already mentioned in terms of acknowledgment and approbation very cordially felt, the proposal made by captain Wadsworth; and, as we understand, promptly and ardently accepted by lieut. Nash, for co-operating to suppress the criminal traffic, equally obnoxious to the laws and outrageous to the feelings of both their nations. We trust speedily to be enabled to announce the successful results of this co-operation.

The American colonial schooner from the Sherbro, had been some time in the harbor of Freetown, awaiting the arrival of some of the ships of war of the United States, in order to obtain means to establish, in a better situation, the remnant of the settlers so disastrously placed in the first instance. This vessel received ample supplies and reinforcements from the John Adams, and sailed again on Saturday the 14th inst. with the intention of transferring the surviving settlers to the new and more favorable ground purchased for the occasion from the native chiefs. We trust this new settlement will be exempt from the mortality which fell with such disastrous weight upon the prior location. But, we still retain our objection to any American settlement in the Sherbro, as being much too near this colony for the good of Africa; or, for the concord of those who are equally concerned in promoting the civilization of the Africans, and their conversion to christianity.

## STATE OF THE THERMOMETER.

	9 o'clk.	12 o'clk.	5 o'clk.
January 31	60	69	71
February 1	51	53	53
2	42	45	48
3	49	59	61
4	59	67	61
5	65	57	59

## Land for Sale,

WITHIN four miles of Hillsborough, lying on both sides of the road leading from Hillsborough to Oxford. The payments will be made easy to the purchaser. For further particulars apply to the subscriber.

Thos. W. Holden.

Feb. 2. 52—

## STRAYED

FROM the subscriber, on Thursday the 1st instant, near William Dillard's, in Orange county, a **SORREL HORSE**, about seven years old last spring, five feet high, a white face, one glass eye, all his legs white as high as his knees. Any person who will deliver said horse to the subscriber in Guilford county, near Mr. James Dick's, or give information so that he may get him again, shall receive a reasonable reward.

Peter Wagoner.

February 6. 52—

## BOOK AND JOB PRINTING

Promptly and correctly executed at the office of the Hillsborough Recorder.

**BLANKS**  
of various kinds,  
for sale at this office.



revolutionize the county and state." The direct compensation of these officers amounts to nearly 12,000 a year, and their expenses are believed to be very considerable.

The conduct of the judge of the U. States of the northern district of this state, is daily before the eyes of the legislature.—The marshals have acted in coincidence with the general current of extraneous influence, and in their selection of deputies to take the census, they have, as far as I can learn, studiously excluded all those applicants that were friendly to the state administration. The conduct of Mr. Robert Tillotson, one of the district attorneys, and nephew of the president of the United States, is glanced at in the paper marked X,—and that of Mr. Jacob Sutherland, the other district attorney, and nephew of the secretary of the navy, is mentioned in the paper marked Y. It will give me pleasure to find that there is error in some of these imputations; but of their officious and improper interference, generally speaking, there can be no doubt. There are three newspapers employed by the government for publishing the laws of the Union, in this state, and these consisted of the Argus, National Advocate, and Ontario Messenger, until within a few weeks, when the business was taken from the last paper and committed to the Times in Batavia, a gazette of recent date, of comparatively limited circulation, and hostile to the state administration.

There are, I believe, 674 post-masters in this state, and I should estimate the aggregate patronage of the department in the state at large at 100,000 dollars annually. During the able and impartial administration of the predecessor of the present post-master general, these offices were conferred without any reference to state politics. Attempts have been made, at different times, to cause the removal of postmasters friendly to the state administration, and I am sorry to say that in several instances they have succeeded. The papers marked Z, will exhibit the case of Mr. Ezekiah L. Granger, who, in the spring of 1819, was removed from the office of post-master at Manlius. The papers marked AA, are an expose of the removal of Alpheus Doty from the post office at Sandy Hill. This removal, it appears, was effected through the instrumentality of Mr. Roger Skinner, who resided in the same village. Mr. Doty, who has since died, had incurred the resentment of Mr. Skinner for his support of the state administration, and he was accordingly marked out for a victim, and in December, 1818, his removal was solicited by Mr. Skinner in the city of Washington. To effect this purpose, it would appear, that the good offices of Mr. Henry Meigs were employed to operate on his uncle, the post-master general.—It appears that the post-master general had determined to make the removal on Mr. Skinner's representation alone. The petition was signed by violent partisans, and the reasons assigned in it were only ostensible. And there is this singular circumstance attending this transaction.—The papers directing the displacement were enclosed to Mr. Skinner; and it was not, it appears, in his estimation sufficient punishment to effect the removal of a good citizen and faithful officer, under false pretences, but his humiliation must be witnessed by his political adversaries, who were apprised of the event, and were called in to exult over his fall.—The papers marked BB, will show the removal of the post-master at Caldwell. This was also principally accomplished through the agency of Mr. Skinner, and upon the same grounds of party excitement. His letter to the post-master general, on this subject, could not be found. The paper marked CC, refers to the removal of Mr. Brown, the post-master at Harford, in Washington county, which was also the result of the same spirit. In March, 1819, Mr. Jacob Van Ness was removed from the office of clerk of the county of Dutchess—and Mr. Peter R. Livingston, a senator from the southern district, publicly declared, and I am credibly informed, that the then post-master at Poughkeepsie, should be removed from office, and Mr. Van Ness appointed in his place. This event actually took place, and indicates an understanding and co-operation between a department, at least, at Washington, and a political party in this state.

Although these measures were unequivocal in demonstration, and reprehensible in character, yet they were not deemed sufficiently energetic for the crisis. And, accordingly, on the 4th of April, 1820, twenty-one days before the general election, Mr. Martin Van Buren, chairman of the meeting which nominated Mr. Tompkins for governor, addressed the following letter to Mr. Henry Meigs, the nephew before alluded to of the post-master general. "My dear sir—Our sufferings, owing to the rascality of deputy post-masters is intolerable, and cries aloud for relief. We find it absolutely impossible to penetrate the interior with our papers, and unless we can attain them by two or three prompt removals, there is no limiting the injurious consequences that may result from it; let me therefore entreat the post-master general to do an act of justice, and render us a partial service, by the removal of Holt, of Herkimer, and the appointment of Jabez

Fox, Esq.—Also of Howell, of Bath, and the appointment of an excellent friend, W. B. Rochester, Esq., a young man of the first respectability and worth in the state,—and the removal of Smith, at Little Falls, and the appointment of Hollister,—and the removal of Chamberlain, in Oxford, and the appointment of Lot Clark, Esq. I am in extreme haste, and can therefore add no more. Use the enclosed papers according to your discretion, and if any thing is done, let it be quickly done, and you may rely upon it, much good will result from it. Yours, affectionately, M. Van Buren. April 4, 1820. The hon. Henry Meigs."

The ostensible object of this letter is the displacement of certain post-masters on account of alleged mal practices; but the real design was to subvert the purposes of party. The removal of a few distinguished post-masters would serve as a monition to the 674 post-masters in the state to come out as electioneering partisans against the state administration, or to maintain silence. The improper and corrupt practices imputed to post-masters by Mr. Van Buren, are, no doubt, entirely unfounded. The private characters of those gentlemen are perfectly respectable, and their official conduct had never, as I understand, been impeached before that period. "If any thing is done, let it be quickly done, and you may rely upon it, much good will result from it." That is, let it be done before the election, and many votes will be acquired.

The letter of Mr. Van Buren produced the removal of Messrs. Chamberlain and Smith, two of the post-masters mentioned in it. It seems that Mr. J. R. Drake, then a member of congress, interfered very officiously against a post-master living out of his district. And it is believed that the removal of Mr. Leonard, whose case will be hereafter mentioned, was accomplished through his instrumentality.—It appears that Mr. Drake cultivated an influence when in Washington, sufficient not only to injure men much more respectable than himself, but to secure a contract with the government which he considered of some consequence. Mr. Howell was kept in his office, by a personal acquaintance with Dr. Bradley of the general post office, who very properly exerted himself to continue the services of this excellent officer for the benefit of the department. Mr. Holt was not removed until the 7th of December last, after the resolutions of a party meeting, marked D, D, held on the 30th October last, were forwarded to the post-master general. It is said by the post-master general, that Mr. Holt was considerably delinquent, and failed for a number of quarters to render his accounts according to law. In order to establish the reality of this reason, the application of removal ought to exist in every similar case; but an intimation has been publicly and repeatedly made of a great delinquency, and no notice has been taken of it; and I am greatly mistaken if many cases do not exist where the returns required by law have not been duly made, and which have, notwithstanding, been passed over without animadversion.

The papers marked EE, probably contain the true statement of the case. The papers marked GG, relate to the removal of the post-master at Little Falls. And the affidavits of the honorable Robert Monell and Joseph S. Lyman, marked FF, will illustrate the general character of the transactions.—On the 15th of April, 1820, Mr. Stephen B. Leonard was removed from the office of post-master at Oswego. The letter announcing this is in the words following, to wit: "Post Office Department, 13th of April, 1820—Sir, your being a mail contractor, and the only printer in the place where you reside, it is considered that your holding the office of post-master gives you an undue preference over other citizens and printers, not justified by the usual practice of this department. With your conduct, as post-master, I am well satisfied. Respectfully, yours, &c. R. J. Meigs, jun.—Stephen B. Leonard, Esq." The report of the post-master general, marked HH, made at the present session of congress, shows that there are 58 post-masters who are at the same time contractors for carrying the mail; and it is well known that in three important cities, the post-masters are at the same time proprietors and editors of newspapers; and it cannot be presumed that the circumstance of Mr. Leonard's being the only printer in Oswego, would increase the force of the general objection. In this case there would be no immediate rival establishment which he would be interested in injuring by virtue of his official situation.

The case of Mr. Leonard is particularly mentioned in the paper marked II. The documents marked JJ, KK, LL, MM, and NN, are corroborative of the other proofs, and exhibit some interesting views on this subject.

There are in all probability scenes of equal if not greater turpitude, which cannot be exposed on account of the peculiar situation of individuals, dependent for their livelihood in maintaining silence, interested in concealing abuses, desirous of screening personal or political friends, averse to encounter the vituperation which will ensue—apprehensive of personal injury from the desperation of detected malefactors, or looking to a particular quarter for fa-

vors to themselves or connections. Under these circumstances it would be impossible for any department of the government, even if armed with the power of compelling testimony, to attain a full knowledge of the abuses complained of in the present case, it was rendered still more difficult from the want of official authority to take cognizance of the investigation. And when it was instituted with a view to the attainment of documentary testimony, the offenders were forewarned, and had ample time to take measures for the suppression of the truth.

It is, I conceive, impossible to resist the unfavorable conclusions which must be drawn from the body of testimony now submitted to you, making full allowance for exaggeration or error; for the influence of prejudice, and the operation of improper motives. And admitting that a considerable portion of the allegations may be successfully refuted; yet still there will remain a sufficient number of strong and established facts, to prove a concert of exertions on the part of the officers of the national government—in the navy yard, the custom-house, the general post office, and in the judicial, and some other institutions of that government, operating in our local elections; and which demonstrates the existence of an organized and disciplined corps, and the obtrusion of extraneous influence for the purpose of promoting the aspirations of ambition—of securing the possession of authority, or of breaking down the power of the state, by the encouragement of intestine divisions. And this is a case in which the maxim—*He orders the commission of a crime, who does not forbid it when it is in his power*, may be justly and emphatically applied. The least intimation from the proper quarter, would have effectually prevented these notorious and alarming evils.

To all sincere friends of republican government, and such gentlemen, I believe you all to be, this statement must present subjects for serious reflection. Without the existence of state governments, it is impossible for us to enjoy the blessings of free government. And without a national government, we would be involved in wars at home, and have but feeble security against attacks from abroad. Both are essential to the freedom, the safety, the prosperity, and the honour of our country. The national government is necessary to the case, armed with controlling authority over the revenues and physical force of the country. In its military and naval establishments—in the arrangement of the national domains—in the disposition of its diplomatic intercourse—in the collection of taxes—in the immense patronage which it derives from the numerous and lucrative offices in its gift—and in the alignments which are consequently held forth to ambition and cupidity, we perceive the foundation of an influence which may be arrayed with a force almost irresistible against the independence and stability of the state governments. It may be truly observed, that in proportion to the population of the United States, no government has more numerous and efficient means of directing and controlling public opinion. And when we consider that few of the states have any funds or resources except what are derived from taxation; that the compensation of their public officers is comparatively small; and that the heads of their executive and judicial departments have been even sometimes induced to accept offices under the national government, subordinate in importance, but superior in emoluments; we must at once perceive the difficulties which the state authorities might have in opposing the improper influence of the national government. And when we further consider that in all probability there would be no unity of views or coincidence of exertions operating at the same time in the states, while the national authority might make its approaches by singling out particular states, and advancing against them with its combined and consolidated force, we have every reason to exercise the utmost vigilance, and to interpose all proper barriers against undue encroachments. A government of influence and corruption is the worst possible shape which a republican government can assume, because under the forms of freedom it combines the essence of tyranny. And although I am far from saying that this is now the case, yet the first attempts to give a wrong direction to the authority of government, ought to be resisted. Slavery is ever preceded by sleep; and the liberties of free states are more frequently prostrated by fraud than by force. In the intelligence and patriotism of the body of our fellow citizens, we may, I trust, rely for the preservation of our free governments. And with an anxious desire to merit their good opinion by a faithful and independent discharge of my important duties, and with an entire disregard of any hostility which may arise from any quarter in consequence of my pursuing this course, I submit this communication to the representatives of the people, fully persuaded that when the personal animosities and political agitations of the times are buried in oblivion, I shall be considered by impartial posterity, as having endeavoured to deserve well of the republic by my conduct on this occasion.

DE WITT CLINTON.  
Albany, 17th Jan. 1821.

## CONGRESS.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Thursday, January 25.

Mr. Floyd, from a select committee which was instructed to inquire into the situation of the settlements on the Pacific ocean, and the expediency of occupying the Columbia river, delivered in a report, accompanied by a bill, to authorize the occupation of the Columbia river, and to regulate the intercourse with the Indian tribes within the United States and territories thereof.

The bill was twice read and committed.

The several bills yesterday ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, were read a third time and passed.

### AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION.

On motion of Mr. Smith, of N. C. the house proceeded to the consideration of the resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution of the United States, so as to establish a uniform mode of electing, by districts, electors of president and vice president of the United States, and representatives in congress.

And the question having been stated on the passage of said resolution, this being its final reading in this house—

Mr. Gross, of New York, presented to the house the considerations which confirmed the impressions which he had, from the first, entertained, in favor of this measure.

Mr. Ross, of Ohio, assigned at length the reasons which influenced him to oppose this resolution, first, because, in one part of it, respecting representatives, it was wholly unnecessary, and in the other part, respecting electors, inexpedient.

Mr. Strong, of N. York, next spoke, in opposition to the resolution, on the grounds generally taken in opposition to it, and with the additional reason that the proposed amendment goes to affect the powers of the people, and should therefore be approached with more hesitation than if it related to any of the powers of the government, and should not be touched at all unless under an indispensable necessity.

Mr. Brevard, of South Carolina, delivered his sentiments, in opposition to the resolution, on the general ground that a sufficient necessity had not been shown to justify a material alteration of the constitution.

Mr. Randolph, of Va. expressed the grounds of his hostility to this resolution, which he considered as proposing a pernicious innovation on the constitution, under the influence of fanciful and theoretical notions, under circumstances of the house and of the country not favourable to a correct decision.

Mr. Storrs, of New York, opposed the resolution on principle, and on the ground of the impolicy of lightly invading the present provisions of the constitution.

Mr. Smith of Md. defended the resolution, on the ground of the necessity of some change in the constitution, (he did not pronounce this the only change which could be made, or the best, though he inclined to think it the best,) to guard against the effects of intrigue on elections.

Mr. Whitman, of Mass. strongly supported the resolution on its known merits, and on the ground that the amendment which it proposes to the constitution involves no innovation, but to restore to that instrument a feature in regard to electors, which it originally possessed, which had been taken from it by construction. The delivery of Mr. W.'s speech occupied nearly an hour.

Mr. Wood, of New York, spoke decidedly in support of the resolution, as calculated to restore to the people the exercise of the sovereign power, of which they had in practice been divested, contrary to what ought to have been the construction of the constitution.

The question on the passage of the resolution was then taken, and decided as follows.—Yeas 92—Nays 56.

Two thirds of the members present not having voted in its favour, the resolution was of course declared to be rejected.

And the house adjourned.

Friday, January 26.

Mr. Smith, of Md. from the committee of ways and means, reported the annual general appropriation bill; which was twice read and committed.

Mr. Sergeant, from the committee on the judiciary, reported a bill to provide for the trial of causes in the district court of the United States, wherein the judge of such court is interested, or has been counsel for either party, or is related to, or connected with, either party; which bill was read a first and second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Anderson, from the committee on public lands, reported a bill to establish an additional land office in Michigan; which was twice read and committed.

The speaker laid before the house a letter from the secretary of the treasury, transmitting the information required by a resolution of the house of representatives of the 9th inst. in relation to the agency of the treasurer of the United States for the war and navy depart-

ment, and whether the same may not be discontinued without detriment to the public service.

[The speaker expresses the opinion that the agency of the treasury for the war and navy departments may be discontinued without detriment to the public interest.]

The letter was referred to the committee on the treasury expenditures.

Mr. Clay informed the house that he should defer his motion to take up the Missouri subject to Monday next.

The house continued occupied, until a late hour, in the consideration of a variety of business of a private nature.

The house adjourned to Monday.

### NAVY OF THE U. STATES, ITS EMPLOYMENT AND CONDITION.

Letter from the secretary of the navy to the chairman of the committee on navy affairs of the house of representatives.

Navy Department, Dec. 11th, 1820.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, on behalf of the committee on naval affairs, and to furnish in compliance with your request, the following statement, which contains the information required.

Columbus, of 74 guns; Peacock, sloop of war, 18 guns; Shark, (brig) 14 guns—these vessels are employed for the protection of our commerce in the Mediterranean—to prevent the Barbary states from committing depredations on the persons or property of the citizens of the United States. The Shark is principally employed as a despatch vessel to and from the ports of Barbary.

Ontario, sloop of war, 18 guns—in readiness to proceed to the Mediterranean, to relieve the sloop of war Peacock, ordered to the United States.

Constellation, frigate, 36 guns—cruising in the Pacific ocean for the protection of trade and whale fisheries.

Macedonian, frigate, 36 guns—returning to the United States from the Pacific, after being relieved by the Constellation.

Congress, frigate, 36 guns—cruising in the Indian seas, and the several Straits, to afford convoy and protection to our trade to and from China, and to give security against the native pirates.

Corvette John Adams, 24 guns; Corvette Cyane, 24 guns; Hornet, sloop of war, 18 guns; cruising on the coast of Africa, for the suppression of the slave trade, and capture of piratical vessels—with instructions to cruise, for the same purpose, on their return to the United States, off the coast of Guinea and along the west India islands.

Enterprise, (brig) 14 guns; cruising along the West Indies, Gulf of Mexico, and occasionally around the Bahamas, and along the coast of the United States.

Lynx, schooner, 6 guns; Anson, schooner, 8 guns;—cruising as the brig Enterprise;—all these vessels being employed to carry into effect the several acts of congress for the suppression of the slave trade and punishment of the crime of piracy.

Gun Boats, Nos. 158 and 168;—cruising for the same objects along the coasts of Georgia, Florida, &c.

Three small vessels, mounting one gun each, are employed off the Mississippi in the protection of the trade and revenue of the United States.

The objects contemplated in the orders to the several ships and vessels of the navy are briefly explained against their names and stations.

As respects the force now employed in the Mediterranean, it is presumed to be not greater than the service and the interests of the United States require for the purposes of protection; the other ships and vessels are cruising separately, and are considered necessary for the service to which they have been assigned.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

SMITH THOMPSON.

Hon. PHILIP P. BARBOUR,  
Chairman Naval Committee,  
House of Representatives.

### CONSTITUTION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Synopsis of the articles of amendment.

Article I. Prescribes that the provisions of the legislature for the support of public worship, shall no longer be confined to protestant teachers, but be applied to all public christian teachers, and to all societies whether incorporated or not; that all monies paid for maintenance of public worship be applied to the public teacher on whose instructions the subject attends, without regard to the denomination of the parish in which the money is raised; and that all taxes assessed for this purpose upon the real estate of non-resident proprietors, shall be applied to support public worship in the place where they are assessed, except that the said proprietors shall be of a different sect of christians from the parish in which they are so assessed. The clause of the declaration of rights investing the legislature with authority to enforce an attendance on the instructions of public teachers is annulled. No person shall be tried for a crime, the punishment for which would be ignominious, except on presentment of a grand jury—and any person charged with any crime or offence shall have a right to be heard by himself and his counsel.



Art. 2. Provides that the political year shall begin on the 1st Wednesday in January, instead of the first Wednesday in May—and that the town meetings for the election of all state officers, shall be held on the 2d Monday in November, instead of the first Monday in April. This article is to go into operation on the 4th of July the present year.

Art. 3. Declares that no bill or resolution shall become a law if the general court by their adjournment shall prevent the governor from returning it with his objections within five days after it is laid before him.

Art. 4. Invests the general court with authority to grant city powers to towns containing 12,000 inhabitants and upwards, upon the application of a majority of the inhabitants thereof, present and voting on the question:

Art. 5. Provides for the organization of the senate and house of representatives. The senate to consist of 36 members; the state to be divided into districts for their election, to be never less than ten, and no one to elect more than 6 senators. The basis, to be the proportion of public taxes paid in each district. The house never to consist of more than 95 members, except in those years when the valuation is settled, when every town may send as at present. All towns of 1200 inhabitants to elect one representative and the mean increasing number to entitle a town to two, shall be 2400 inhabitants. Towns containing less than 2400 inhabitants to be divided into two classes, each of which shall elect representatives every other year. The mean increasing number and the original number of inhabitants to entitle a town to one or more representatives, to be enlarged with the augmentation of population every tenth year. No town hereafter to be incorporated can send a representative without having 2400 inhabitants, and the members of the house are to be paid out of the public treasury. The council is to consist of seven instead of nine members; to be chosen from the people by joint ballot of the two houses of the legislature.

Art. 6. Every male citizen 21 years of age and upwards, who has resided one year within the state, and six months in the particular town, where he claims to vote, and who has paid any state or county tax within two years, may vote in the election of all the officers of the commonwealth.

Art. 7. Notaries shall be appointed by the governor and council and hold their offices for seven years, unless removed by the address of both houses of the legislature. The same article provides for the appointment of a secretary or treasurer or commissary general in given cases, and also for the removal of such officers.

Art. 8. All members of both houses of the legislature shall be subject to removal on account of age.

Art. 9. Requires previously to the removal of any judicial officers by address of the legislature, that the causes of removal shall be first stated on the journal of the house in which it shall originate—and notice to be given to the officer that he may be heard in his defence. The article also annuls a provision in the constitution, requiring the supreme court to give opinions on questions proposed by the governor or legislature.

Art. 10. Removes the limitation to particular denominations of christians, from such ministers of churches as may be hereafter elected members of the board of overseers of Harvard college.

Art. 11 and 12. Substitutes an oath of allegiance and an oath of office for all other oaths in the constitution.

Art. 13. Declares the incompatibility of several offices under the government of the commonwealth and U. States.

Art. 14. Provides a mode for obtaining future amendments to the constitution. The particular amendment must first be agreed to, by a majority of the senators and two-thirds of the representatives in one year, and entered on the journals of both houses with the yeas and nays—and the next general court must concur in the proposed amendment, by the same majorities. It is then to be submitted to the people, and if a majority of qualified voters finally adopt it, the same becomes part of the constitution.

## THE STATE OF OHIO, VERSUS BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.

A joint committee of the legislature of Ohio have made a very long report, to both houses, on the subject of the controversy with the bank of the United States. In the report it is proposed, that a compromise be made by law, providing "that upon the bank discontinuing the suits now pending against the public officers of the state, and giving assurance that the branches shall be withdrawn, and only an agency left to settle its business and collect its debts, the amount collected for tax shall be paid without interest."

The committee conclude, by recommending the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, by the general assembly of the state of Ohio, That in respect to the powers of the governments of the several states, that compose the American Union, and the powers of the federal government, this general assembly

recognize and approve the doctrines asserted by the legislature of Kentucky and Virginia, in their resolutions of November and December, 1798, and January 1800, and do consider that their principles have been recognized and adopted by a majority of the American people.

Resolved further, That this general assembly do protest against the doctrines of the federal circuit court, sitting in this state, avowed and maintained in their proceedings against the officers of state, upon account of their official acts, as being in direct violation of the 11th amendment to the constitution of the United States.

Resolved further, That this general assembly do assert, and will maintain, by all legal and constitutional means, the right of the states to tax the business and property of any private corporation of trade incorporated by the congress of the United States and located to transact its corporation business within any state.

Resolved further, That the bank of the United States is a private corporation of trade, the capital and business of which may be legally taxed in any state where they may be found.

Resolved further, That this general assembly do protest against the doctrine, that the political rights of the separate states that compose the American Union, and their powers as sovereign states, may be settled and determined in the supreme court of the United States, so as to conclude and bind them, in cases contrived between individuals, and where they are no one of them, parties direct.

Resolved further, That the governor transmit to the governors of the several states, a copy of the foregoing report and resolutions, to be laid before their respective legislatures, with a request from this general assembly, that the legislature of each state may express their opinion upon the matters therein contained.

Resolved further, That the governor transmit a copy of the foregoing report and resolutions to the president of the United States, and to the president of the senate, and speaker of the house of representatives of the United States, to be laid before their respective houses, that the principles upon which this state has, and does proceed, may be fairly and distinctly understood.

Resolved, That ——— members of the senate, and ——— members of the house of representatives, be appointed to prepare and bring in bills, pursuant to the recommendations of the foregoing report.

## HILLSBOROUGH.

Wednesday, February 7.

In the speech of the governor of the state of New York to the legislature, at an extra session held at Albany in November last, he alluded to the officers of the general government as "an organized and disciplined corps," and as using undue influence in the state elections. This part of the speech occasioned considerable heat in the senate, which resulted in the proceedings which will be found in the last page of our paper of the 6th of December. As the implication of the general government in practices so inimical to the independence of state institutions, is a subject not confined in its interest to the citizens of New York, but is of equal importance to every state in the union, we deem no apology necessary for introducing the subject to our readers. The message of governor Clinton to the house of assembly at the commencement of the present session, relates entirely to this subject, and details the facts on which his observations were founded. It will be found in our first page. The following remarks are copied from the Albany Gazette:

His excellency the governor on Thursday made a highly interesting and important communication to the house of assembly, upon the subject of the interference of the officers under the appointment of the general government, in our state elections. It will be recollected that the house of assembly made a call for this information, in the report of the select committee relative to the propriety of answering the governor's speech, at the fall session.—This together with the extraordinary resolution of the senate, in which they, in effect, cut off all intercourse or communication between themselves and the executive, is doubtless the reason that the message went to the house instead of the senate.

After the reading of the message, which is drawn up in bold and elevated language, a resolution was offered by Mr. Romaine, that it, together with the documents, be referred to a committee of the house.

that a joint committee would not be clothed with sufficient powers. Mr. Spencer moved that the resolution be amended, so that it should not be a joint resolution, and so as to authorize the committee to send for persons and papers. After some considerable debate, the resolution was laid on the table, and the message and documents ordered to be printed.

We have only time to say, that his excellency has presented a strong case—much stronger, we suspect, than either his friends or his enemies expected. He has borne himself triumphantly out, in the passage of his speech, which has given so much offence. And the investigation which has been instituted, has resulted in the production of a mass of testimony which, unless we are greatly mistaken, will induce the people to "pause and consider." Albany Gaz.

Wm. Blackledge, Esq. is elected to Congress from the Newbern district, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Slocumb.

John E. Boddie, who is accused of killing Dr. Wm. H. Fowler in a fray, on the night of the 19th Feb. 1820, returned to this county after an absence of 12 months, and surrendered himself into the hands of justice; he was brought to this place yesterday; and underwent an examination before three magistrates. He is admitted to bail, being bound himself in the sum of 3000 dollars, and two securities 1500 dollars each, to appear at our next superior Court.

Raleigh Minerva.

The resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution, to establish a uniform mode of election of electors of president and vice president of the United States, and representatives to congress, has been rejected. Had the votes against it, however, been fewer by twelve (or one-fifteenth of the whole number of representatives,) the resolution had passed the house. Having long believed this amendment to be in every view desirable, it is a consolation to perceive, from the gathering number of its friends, that the day of its adoption is not far distant.

New-York, Jan. 24.

We have again to record a calamitous fire in this city. It broke out on yesterday morning, between 2 and 3 o'clock, and has reduced to ashes the block of buildings which comprized the square between Front and South street, from the upper side of Fulton street to the fire-proof buildings on Front and South streets, recently built by Gen. Stevens and Messrs. Schermerhorns, above Crane wharf alley. One fire proof store, lately built on Front street, by Mr. Moor, and which was unoccupied, is all that remains of the whole square. On the opposite, or west side of Front street, some stores are burnt down, and others much injured between the fire proof store owned by Bugert & Kneeland and the store of Matthew Howell. The very valuable stores occupied by Messrs. Horton & Woodhull, and Mr. Thomas Bloodgood, it is said, have sustained the most damage on that side of the street. The latter contained a great quantity of wines; the upper loft, we understand, was filled with about 60,000 bottles of choice quality, nearly all of which was destroyed. Mr. Bloodgood is, however, fully insured. The buildings destroyed were principally of wood, and of no great value, but some of them contained considerable quantities of merchandise, the loss of which, it is said, will exceed in amount the value of the buildings. The buildings were 3 and 4 stories high, and the conflagration was extremely rapid, the flames illuminating nearly the whole city.

The fire broke out in the lower part of a wooden building on the east side of Front street, near Crane wharf, occupied, by Sarah Smith, as a small tavern, which was entirely consumed.

Mr. Degrand says, in his last report, "We cannot but indulge the hope, that the strong current of public opinion, which is setting in favor of relief to the unfortunate, will be felt in congress, and thus enable 500,000 bankrupts to add to the national wealth, (at 50 cents per day more than they now earn) ninety millions of dollars per annum. Every year of delay produces this enormous difference; being equal to the whole of the public debt of the United States."

North-Carolina.—We are pleased to observe, that there appears to be a renewed attention to the subject of internal improvements in this state. There is no member of the confederate whose natural advantages have been so appreciated at home, or re-

pected abroad, than North-Carolina's—the latter is probably caused by the former. A few patriots have roused a spirit, which we hope will make us all better acquainted with the real condition and rightful standing of this important state.

Niles Reg.

Milledgeville, Jan. 9.

An act of the legislature of Alabama, which closed its session last month, lays a tax of one dollar on every dirk, sword cane, pocket or side pistol, and dirk knife—also one dollar (as an additional tax) on the sale of every pack of playing cards. Another act exempts from execution, levy of distress, the following articles in every family; one bed and furniture, one cow and calf, necessary wearing apparel, three spinning wheels, one loom, one fourth part of the provisions and a few other articles of minor value. A state bank, at the seat of government, and removable with its capital of \$2,000,000, to remain till 1835, was incorporated.

The Milledgeville Journal says—"The intrinsic value of the territory, ceded to the United States for the use of Georgia by the treaty lately concluded with the Creek Indians, is we think, at the lowest computation, five millions of dollars. Calculating the average value of the land at one dollar per acre, and believe it to be worth more, it will amount to that sum.—Out of the lands ceded four or five counties, equal in extent and fertility to Jasper, we are told may be formed

A chance for the Ladies.—The legislature of Missouri, at its late session, laid a tax of one dollar on every bachelor, of the age of 25 years and upwards.

The Cincinnati, (Ohio) paper of January 3, states that a bill had passed the House of Representatives of Ohio, which authorizes the Governor to employ an engineer to examine the grounds on each side the Ohio river, at the falls, with a view of making a permanent Canal on each side of said falls. There is also a bill before the Legislature, but which had not yet been brought up for discussion, respecting a canal between lake Erie and the Ohio river. The paper before us says, "the day that the Erie canal is completed, will be a proud era in the history of Ohio, and we cannot dismiss the subject without earnestly entreating our legislators to put forth the energies of the state in its behalf."

A letter from New-Orleans, of the 24th ult. states, that flour has been sold there at one dollar per barrel; that fresh flour is selling at three dollars per barrel, and every other article from the upper country proportionably low, and not in demand.

Baltimore, January 25.

COLD WEATHER.  
An accurate register thermometer, made by the celebrated Adie of Edinburgh, indicated as the greatest cold of last night (Wednesday) 9 degrees below 0, or 41 degrees below the freezing point. This is 5 degrees lower than the same thermometer has been before this winter.

The ice in our harbour is now so strong and thick that drays have been busily employed on it in transporting goods to Fell's Point from the vessels lying at the fort.

The following is communicated for the satisfaction of my friends in the United States:—

As various reports may be in circulation on the subject of my late imprisonment in Charleston gaol, for an alleged "libel against the peace and dignity of the state of South Carolina," founded on some remarks in my Journal, pages 183 and 175, &c. about a Mr. Hamet, which I am held in bail to answer at Court, on the second Monday in May next, on a criminal prosecution, after which a fair explanation may be expected.—This is, therefore, to request not a hasty judgment before the time, and to return my thanks to those gentlemen who have volunteered their friendly aid at this exigency.

LORENZO DOW.

Charleston (S. C.) Jan. 25, 1821.

Accounts are received by an arrival at Boston from St. Domingo, of the discovery of an extensive and deep-laid plot, by the blacks of that place, to massacre the whites and mulattoes, and pillage the city. The discovery was made but a few hours previous to the one fixed on for cap-

ring their horrid project into execution, and the ringleaders were seized and are imprisoned. Five hundred blacks had been armed for that purpose, and their bloody plan was to have been put in execution on Christmas day, but was happily discouraged in time to prevent the accomplishment of it. On the first alarm all the whites fled to the shipping in the harbor for safety; but when Capt. Bright sailed, the soldiers had been dispersed, and the white inhabitants were ashore attending to their business as usual.

The war, on the Maine, is said to have enabled Morillo to amass a fortune of \$2,000,000, and that he requires contented!

## From Sierra Leone.

From the Sierra Leone Gazette of October 21 received by the United States ship John Adams, arrived at Norfolk.

On Sunday, the 15th inst. at 7 A. M. the American frigate John Adams, capt. Wadsworth, sailed from the harbour of Freetown on a cruise, having in view the execution of the orders of the government of the U. States, for the suppression of the slave trade, carried on by American citizens, or under the American flag.

Early in the morning of Monday, the 16th, his majesty's brig Snapper, lieut. Nash commanding, sailed from her anchorage within the bank called the middle ground:—in the course of the day the Snapper communicated with the John Adams.

We have already mentioned in terms of acknowledgement and approbation very cordially felt, the proposal made by captain Wadsworth; and, as we understand, promptly and ardently accepted by lieut. Nash, for co-operating to suppress the criminal traffic, equally obnoxious to the laws and outrageous to the feelings of both their nations. We trust speedily to be enabled to announce the successful results of this co-operation.

The American colonial schooner from the Sherbro, had been some time in the harbor of Freetown, awaiting the arrival of some of the ships of war of the United States, in order to obtain means to establish, in a better situation, the remnant of the settlers so disastrously placed in the first instance. This vessel received ample supplies and reinforcements from the John Adams, and sailed again on Saturday the 14th inst. with the intention of transferring the surviving settlers to the new and more favorable ground purchased for the occasion from the native chiefs. We trust this new settlement will be exempt from the mortality which fell with such disastrous weight upon the prior location. But, we still retain our objection to any American settlement in the Sherbro, as being much too near this colony for the good of Africa; or, for the concord of those who are equally concerned in promoting the civilization of the Africans, and their conversion to christianity.

## STATE OF THE THERMOMETER.

	9 o'clk.	12 o'clk.	3 o'clk.
January 31	60	69	71
February 1	51	53	53
2	42	45	48
3	49	59	61
4	59	67	71
5	65	74	79

## Land for Sale,

WITHIN four miles of Hillsborough, lying on both sides of the road leading from Hillsborough to Oxford. The payments will be made easy to the purchaser. For further particulars apply to the subscriber.

Thos. W. Holden.

Feb. 2.

52—

## STRAYED

FROM the subscriber, on Thursday the 1st instant, near William Dillard's, in Orange county, a *SORREL HORSE*, about seven years old last spring, five feet high, a white face, one glass eye, all his legs white as high as his knees. Any person who will deliver said horse to the subscriber in Guilford county, near Mr. James Dick's, or give information so that he may get him again, shall receive a reasonable reward.

Peter Wagoner.

February 6.

52—

## BOOK AND JOB PRINTING

Promptly and correctly executed at the office of the Hillsborough Recorder.

## BLANKS of various kinds, for sale at this office.



From the National Gazette.

### A MONODY

#### ON THE DEATH OF HIS WIFE,

By the late Benjamin Bates, of Virginia, member of the society of Friends.

Yes, thou art gone! those happy years  
Renew their course no more,  
And mingled joys and soften'd cares  
And plighted love are o'er!

Farewell! but round this bleeding heart  
Dear thoughts of thee shall twine,  
And fondly cherish'd there, impart  
The virtues that were thine.

There mingling with the streams of life,  
Thy various merits blend,  
My dear companion, tender wife,  
Sweet comforter and friend!

And oh! can love, surpassing sense,  
That south'd a life of pain,  
Borne by a sainted spirit hence,  
Revisit earth again!

Didst thou (or was it but the flight  
Of fancy roving wild)  
Come like an angel clothed in light?  
'Twas *Thou* and she smiled.

Yes, in the silent hours of rest,  
When care forgets to weep,  
When wearied nature sinks oppress'd  
To slumber and troubled sleep,

I've seen 'thine fair as evening's star,  
Sweet as an angel's love,  
Restored to health, return'd from far,  
Or leaving from above!

But not alone to raptur'd thought,  
In visions thus divine—  
Oft in my waking hours unsought,  
Thy spirit visits mine.

And though this earth has lost its charms,  
Though sad is every scene,  
And all, like these deserted arms,  
Is void where thou hast been:

Still, still this heart with anguish torn,  
Has found a lone retreat,  
A place where parted friends return,  
And kindred spirits meet.

The love that in thy bosom dwelt,  
O'er death extends its reign,  
The sweet communion we have felt,  
My spirit feels again.

And yet can I lament that thou  
Art suff'ring here no more?  
That songs immortal cheer thee now?  
That all thy woes are o'er?

Would I replace the galling loads  
Of mortal care and pain!  
Or call thee from the blest abodes  
To toil on earth again!

Not be the sore privation mine!  
Thy race on earth is run;  
Few of its joys were ever thine,  
And of its glory none!

One holy aim, one brighter prize,  
Engaged thy fervent care,  
To form thy spirit for the skies,  
To lead thy children there.

To turn my anxious cares above,  
And, oh! when we should part—  
To guard the pledges of thy love,  
And with a mother's heart!

The paths of death with glory shine  
When saints the call obey;  
A light from heaven, an arm divine,  
Are with them on the way!

I saw, I felt celestial aids  
Attend thy parting breath;  
My soul was with thee through the shades,  
And at the gates of death.

Sweet was thy close, though all around  
In silent anguish hung;  
Calms was thy spirit, love, the sound  
That trembled on thy tongue.

Rest, happy soul! thy rest is come!  
'Tis for myself I mourn,  
And for these precious babes to whom  
Thou never must return!

Rest, and may we that bliss attain  
Where thou art gone before,  
And heaven shall join our souls again,  
For death to part no more.

### NECESSITY OF CHRISTIANITY TO

Population 150,000,000.

The institutions of the Hindoos are unquestionably among the most ancient now in existence. The *Veda*, as written, no doubt, before the time of David—and it is probable that the Hindoo superstition, in one form or another, is now professed by 500,000,000 of the human family—the deities worshipped throughout China, Japan, Tartary, the Burman empire, Siam, Ceylon, and India, being all of Hindoo origin.

The philosophical theory most prevalent among the Hindoos, at present, in reference to the Divine Being, the duties of time, and final beatitude, is, that God is pure spirit, destitute of attributes—that he remains in his own eternal solitude and blessedness, like the unreflected ocean, unconnected with the creatures—that he is not an object of worship—that there are but two principles in the universe, spirit and matter—that all life is spirit or God—that matter is inert—that all actions, good or evil, are to be attributed to spirit or God—that connection with matter is a state of punishment—that the great business of life is to obtain freedom from this union to matter—that this is only to be procured through the cere-

monies or austerities called *jogee*—that by these ceremonies perfect abstraction or the complete annihilation in the mind of its connection with matter is obtained, and that this abstraction being realized, at death the soul of the *jogee* mixes with the all pervading spirit, that is, returns to the soul of the world. There are now in India, no *jogees* like those described in the Hindoo writings, though many assume appearances which show that they wish to be considered *jogees*.

It will be seen, that this system of philosophy carries us to the Athenian inscription, "the unknown God;" that it makes spirit or God, the author of sin—that it annihilates all the social feelings—consigns to infamy all the relations and occupations of life—and destroys all separate existence after death.

The popular superstition proposes no higher benefit to the most devout, than that they shall, after innumerable transmigrations, become *jogees*.

In the Hindoo writings, the work of creation is attributed to *Brumha*, the work of providence to *Vishnoo*, and the work of destruction to *Seeb*—all created beings. These deities, according to the Hindoo accounts, are continually opposing and thwarting each other in the administration of human affairs.—What a triad!

The objects of worship are the gods—these are said to amount to 330,000,000. Among those very commonly worshipped are the cow—*Hunooman*, a monkey—*Ananuta*, the serpent, and *Krishnoo*, an infamous lecher, and *Radha*, his concubine. The car of *Jugunnath* is covered with paintings descriptive of actions the most indecent and infamous—and the worship at the festivals is connected with the open exhibition of indecencies, which can never be described to a Christian people. *Gopal*, a learned brahm, acknowledged to *Mr. Marshman*, of Serampore, that he never went to the temple on these occasions without hiding himself behind one of the pillars. This is the worship of the Hindoos—that which should fit them for the duties of time, and the blessedness of eternity!

Infanticide has been practised in India from time immemorial—the *raj-poots*, a considerable tribe of Hindoos, put all their female children to death as soon as born—not one survives! They marry in other tribes. Many Hindoo females, after marriage, make a vow to offer to the deity their first child, and these children of the vow, are drowned in the *Burmapootra*, and other sacred rivers.

The Hindoo writings encourage persons afflicted with an incurable distemper to drown themselves in some sacred river or to throw themselves under the wheels of the car of *Jugunnath*, or to cast themselves into a fire prepared by their relatives. Multitudes annually perish by these means—as they are promised by the shaster, a healing body in the next transmigration—and they believe, that if they die a natural death, the same disease will cleave to them in the following, and perhaps in successive births.

At an annual festival in honour of the god *Seeb*, multitudes inflict on their bodies the most shocking cruelties—some have large hooks thrust through the flesh of their backs, by which they are drawn up into the air, and swung round, for fifteen or twenty minutes, the whole weight of the body suspended on the fish resting on these hooks—others have a large slit cut through the centre of their tongue—others cast their naked bodies on open knives fastened in a woolsack, from a height of ten feet from the ground—others have cords drawn between the skin and the ribs in each side, while they dance in honour of this deity—and these devotees close this festival by dancing, with their feet uncovered, on burning coals.

Such is the superstitious faith of the Hindoos in the supposed efficacy of the waters of the sacred rivers in India, that multitudes, in a state of perfect health, put an end to life by drowning themselves in these rivers. At a junction of two sacred rivers at *Alahabad*, crowds thus perish every year. *Capt. Puder* saw sixteen females drown themselves in one morning, as he sat at his own window at *Alahabad*—and while *Dr. Robinson* resided there, twelve men at once, with pans fastened to their necks, plunged into the river, and sunk to rise no more. The Missionary residing there often writes in the utmost distress at beholding the number of victims who are immolated in this awful manner.

More than a thousand persons are supposed to perish annually in the

pilgrimages to the temples and rivers of India.

All the dying, residing near enough to the Ganges and other sacred rivers, are hurried, in the agonies of death, and exposed, in the open air, to the scorching sun by day, and to the dews of night, that they may, as they hope, be purified, in their last moments, by these waters. The deaths of multitudes who might survive are thus hastened, and indescribable miseries are hereby inflicted on the dying.

*Mr. Ward* has brought with him from India an official document, signed by the British magistrates, from which it appears, that in one of the three presidencies of British India only, the presidency of *Bengal*, in the year 1817, seven hundred and six widows were burnt alive, or buried alive, leaving behind them thousands of orphans, thus deprived of father and mother in one day! *Mr. Ward* has himself witnessed the burning alive of three widows—and might have witnessed many more if he could have endured the horrid sight. In what other part of the world have fires like these ever been kindled, and murders like these, at noon day, ever been perpetrated? The savage monsters of the forest, who live on blood, protect their offspring—but the superstition of the Hindoos transforms the mother into a monster more savage than the tiger, and compels the son to set fire to the pile which is to devour the living mother, who fed him from her breast and dandled him on her knees. And these infernal deeds are perpetrated amidst the exultations of "the mild and amiable brahmuns," whose shouts rend the air, while the poor victim, the heart broken widow, utters her frantic screams, and while her flesh palpitates amidst the flames.—*Mr. Ward* is firmly persuaded that the number of widows who thus annually perish in that part of India alone, is far, far greater than the numbers announced in this official statement.

Such are a few of the positive miseries brought on India, in this world, by the religion of these "mild brahmuns." To remove these miseries only, by diffusing the light of Christianity, at whatever expense, is surely worthy the efforts of those who call themselves Christian philanthropists.

But this is not the end of this tale of woe.—For all the millions of children in India, there is not provided the smallest moral instruction whatever—there is not a single school for girls throughout that vast continent—and amongst 75,000,000 of females, not twenty individuals are able to read or write! What wives—what mothers these! No wonder that they destroy their offspring, and that their offspring destroy them!

Some persons have contended that the Hindoos are a moral people—but how should a people be moral, whose gods are personifications of sin, whose priests are notorious for impurity and rapacity, whose temples are houses of ill fame, and whose religious ceremonies, instead of purifying the mind, excite nothing but impure associations? There is not a people on earth so thoroughly given up to lasciviousness, to deception, to falsehood, and to fraud, as the Hindoos, and so completely destitute of principle. Surely they need Christianity, who have no better God than *Jugunnath*, i. e. the stump of a tree, no better Savior than the Ganges, no other expectation in death than that of transmigrating into the body of some reptile.

But Christianity has doubtless a most important reference to a future state. The apostle tells us, "There is no other name given under heaven whereby we can be saved, but the name of Christ." Here, in India, 150 millions of immortal beings, have every thirty years, passing into eternity, like the worshippers of the goddess *Diana*, "without God, without Christ, and without hope in the world."

Where is our regard to the authority of Christ, whose command is still unrepented—"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." If such a loud call for christian help is disregarded? Where, "the mind that was in Christ Jesus." What kind of estimate do we form of the value of the interposition of Christ, the value of Christianity, if in such circumstances as those of the Hindoos, we think they may do well enough without Christianity? If the gospel was necessary to the generation living in the time of Paul, it must be equally necessary to all men now—if necessary to one nation, it must be necessary to all, for the spiritual state of man is every where substantially the same. If necessary to Athens, it must be necessary to

### EXTRACT FROM WIRT.

"Excessive wealth is neither glory nor happiness." The cold and sordid wretch, who thinks only of himself; who draws his head within his shell, and never puts it out but for the purposes of lucre and ostentation—who looks upon his fellow creatures not only without sympathy, but with arrogance and insolence, as if they were made to be his vassals, and he was made to be their lord—as if they were formed for no other purpose than to pamper his avarice, or to contribute to his aggrandisement—such a man may be rich, but trust me, he can never be happy, nor virtuous, nor great. There is in fortune a golden mean, which is the appropriate region of virtue and intelligence. Be content with that; and if the horn of plenty overflow, let its droppings fall upon your fellow men; let them fall, like the droppings of honey in the wilderness, to cheer the faint and way worn pilgrim. I wish you indeed to be distinguished; but wealth is not essential to distinction. Look at the illustrious patriots, philosophers, and philanthropists, who in various ages have blessed the world; was it their wealth that made them great? Where was the wealth of *Aristides*, of *Socrates*, of *Plato*, of *Epaminondas*, of *Fabius*, of *Cincinnatus*, and a countless host upon the rolls of fame? Their wealth was in the mind and in the heart. Those are the treasures by which they have been immortalized, and such alone are the treasures that are worth a serious struggle.

### EARTHQUAKES.

*Humboldt*, in the 4th volume of his *Travels*, gives an account of the earthquake at *Caracas* on the 26th of March, 1812. The first shock was felt at seven minutes past four, P. M. It caused the bells of the churches to toll, and the earth to heave up like a boiling liquid—it lasted five or six seconds. When the danger was thought to be passed, a tremendous subterraneous noise was heard—an undulatory motion of the earth followed, and the town of *Caracas* was entirely overthrown. Between nine and ten thousand of the inhabitants were buried under the ruins of the houses and churches. The earthquake happened on a Holy Thursday, when the churches were filled. Between 5 and 5,000 persons, hurrying out, were killed by the fall of the roofs. A regiment of troops, with the exception of a few men, were buried under the ruins of a large building, occupied as barracks. Nine tenths of the town of *Caracas* was destroyed. The night succeeding the earthquake, was perfectly calm and serene, and the aspect of the sky formed a perfect contrast to that of the earth, covered with the dead, and heaped with ruins.

Mothers were seen bearing in their arms their children, whom they hoped to recall to life. Desolate families wandered through the city, seeking a brother, a husband, a friend, of whose fate they were ignorant, and whom they believed to be lost in the crowd. The people pressed along the streets, which could no more be recognized but by long lines of ruins.

The earthquake extended to the provinces of *Venezuela*, *Verinas* and *Marycaybo*, along the coast, and still more to the inland mountains. Many places were entirely destroyed. The number of dead exceeded 4 or 5,000 at *La Guayra* and at *San Felipe*. It was felt 150 leagues from *Caracas*. Fifteen or eighteen hours after the great catastrophe, the ground remained tranquil. After the 27th there were fifteen oscillations of the earth in one day.

On the 5th of April, there was almost as violent an earthquake as that which overthrew the capital.—During several hours the ground was in a state of perpetual undulation.—Large masses of earth fell in the mountains; and enormous rocks were detached from the *Sierra* of *Caracas*.

*Humboldt's Travels.*

### MOST PEOPLE ACTING ALIKE.

A gentleman in Connecticut, of great talents and respectable connexions, but who lead a graceless, dissipated life, was travelling with a small party, the individuals of which were all known to each other. Among them was a very respectable matron, who, in the course of conversation, began about the life he led. She lamented that a man of his abilities, of such a family, should have made

pretty much the same; that there was less difference than she supposed. "No," she said; "there was nobody so bad as he." In a deprecating tone and manner he replied, that most people would act alike, when put in the same situation; that his conduct and hers would be the same, if placed in similar circumstances. She retorted, that was impossible; that they could never act alike in any case: he thought he could name one: she defied him. Suppose then, madam, that in travelling, you came to an inn, where all the beds were full except two, and in one of these was a man, and in the other a woman, which would you take? Why the woman's, to be sure. Well, madam, said he, so would I. Even the lady was obliged to join in the laugh, by which the profligate wit made his escape from a troublesome argument.

[*Letters on the Eastern States.*]

*Kotzebue* gives a striking description of the effects of governing by the Spy-System. Speaking of the reign of the emperor *Paul*, he says—"A set of wicked men, abusing the confidence of a monarch whose heart was prone to kindness and benevolence, alarmed him continually with phantoms that did not exist, nay, the existence of which they themselves did not believe. Every night I went to bed a prey to the most gloomy forebodings; the least noise in the street, a carriage that stopped not far from my house, made me start. In the morning I awoke to new cares, and thought only of avoiding the impending dangers of the day. I watched with the most careful attention over every article of my dress, and over the manner of wearing it; I found myself under the necessity of paying my court to women of doubtful reputation, and men of shallow understanding. I was forced to put up with the overbearing insolence of an ignorant ballot-master, the husband of *Madame Chevalier*. On the representation of any new piece, I waited in fear, and trembling whether the ever-watchful police, or the secret inquisition would detect in it any involuntary unpremeditated offence. I could but rarely disturb my sorrows in the bosom of a friend; walls had ears, and the brother could no longer trust the brother. No reading could shorten this disastrous time, for every book was prohibited. I was even obliged to disguise the use of my pen; I durst not commit any of my thoughts to paper; I did not know how suddenly I might be searched, and my writings examined. The most harmless walk could not be considered as a recreation; you generally met with unfortunate people that were led to prison, and sometimes even to the barbarous punishment of the knout." [*Lond. Pap.*]

Inured to hardships, to dangers, and to perpetual change of companions, the seaman contracts a species of stoicism which might raise the envy even of a *Diogenes*. "Avast there!" cried a sailor to his comrade, who was busied in heaving overboard the lower division of a mess mate, just cut in halves by a shot! "avast! let us first see if he has not got the key of our mess chest in his pocket!"

An honest sober man, not elegantly dressed, nor of a very winning appearance, happened to call at a tavern where a company of genuine *soakers* had got possession of the bar room, and were skin full of the good creature; the eyes of all were turned upon him. One of them accosted with—well friend, what new you?—None at all, said he, replied the other, we can tell some. Ah, what is it? Why it is dead. Say you so? replied man, then I am sorry for you for I perceive he has left a nun poor fatherless children behind

A person giving an account of an entertainment to which he had invited, said that "The dinner was desperately well cooked, the waiter polite, and his daughter cruel pretty, and abominable fi

**ECONOMY.**—A person at a house, observing an iron for and a stone back-log, exclaimed to the servant to bring a bit of nail-rads, by way of kindling

**HONESTY.**—The difference between honour and honesty, is the motive. The honest man does from duty, which the character for the sake of the man